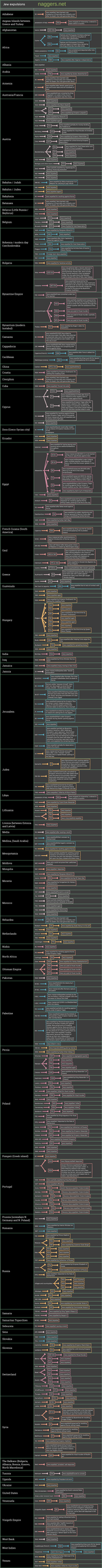
naggers.net

Jew expulsions



England

Burry St. Edmunds	1189-1190	Jews expelled by William the Scaristan for Ritual Murder
High Wycombe	1225	Jews expelled
Leicester	1231	Jews expelled by Simon de Montfort
Warwick	1234	Jews expelled
Southhampton	1236	Jews expelled
Northamptonshire	1237	Jews expelled
Berkhamstead	1242	Jews expelled
Newbury	1244	Jews expelled
Speenhamland	1244	Jews expelled
Derby	1261	Jews expelled
	1263	Jews expelled
Romsey	1266	Jews expelled
Winchelsea	1274	Jews expelled
Cambridge	1275	Jews expelled by the Queen Mother, Eleanor of Provence
Gloucester	1275	Jews expelled by the Queen Mother, Eleanor of Provence
Marlborough	1275	Jews expelled by the Queen Mother, Eleanor of Provence
Worcester	1275	Jews expelled by the Queen Mother, Eleanor of Provence
Andover	1275	Jews expelled
Small Towns	1278	Jews expelled for Coin-Clipping
Windsor	1283	Jews expelled
Gascony	1287-1288	Jews expelled by King Edward I
1290	Jews expelled by King Edward I	
Brunswick	1593	Jews expelled
London	1609	Jews expelled
	1660	City petitions Charles II to expel Jews on restoration of Stuarts/Jewish commerce hurting England / unsuccessful
Gibraltar (island)	1717	Jews expelled

France

Clement	554	Jews Expelled
Narbonne	673	Jews Expelled for siding with Jews of Septimania in revolt
Lyon / Lyons	820	Jews Expelled/Killed by Saint Agobard for owning/selling Christian slaves
	1420	Jews Expelled
Limoges and other French towns	1026	Jews Expelled by the Bishop of Limoges
1180	Jews Expelled by King Philip II	
small cities	1182	Jews Expelled
Normandy	1223	Jews Expelled by King Louis VIII
Britanny	1240	Jews Expelled by Duke Jean le Roux
Vienne	1253	Jews Expelled by the Archbishop
1254	Jews Expelled by Louis IX	
Anjou	1289	Jews Expelled by King Charles of Anjou
Maine	1289	Jews Expelled by King Charles of Anjou
Niort	1291	Jews Expelled
Paris	1291	Jews Expelled to protect them from Christians wanting to kill Jews for already killing Christians
	1848	Jews partially expelled for aiding / financing revolution
Nevers	1294	Jews Expelled
1306	Jews Expelled by King Philip IV	
1310	Jew's Expulsion requests from ecclesiastics denied by King Robert due to Jewish bribe	
1321	Jews Expelled by King Charles IV	
small towns	1321	Jews Expelled by King Phillip V for Ritual Murder of Christian child
	1322	Jews Expelled (again)
	1348	Jews Expelled (the Black Death)
1394	Jews Expelled by King Charles VI	
1453	Jews Expelled	
Lorraine	1477	Jews Expelled
Provence	1489	Jews Expelled
	1491	Jews Expelled
	1498	Jews Expelled by King Louis XII
	1501	Jews Expelled
Orange	1505	Jews Expelled
Colmar	1512	Jews Expelled
1615	Jews Expelled by King Louis XIII of France	
Marseilles	1682	Jews expelled by Louis XIV for Jewish commerce / treason / giving the Dutch info on war
Bordeaux	1682	Jews expelled by Louis XIV for Jewish commerce / treason / giving the Dutch info on war
	1761	Jews expelled
Alsace	1775	Jews expelled
	1786	Jews expelled by Sultan Abdulhamid I
	1811	Jewish merchants expelled
Bremes	1820	Jews expelled
1940	Jews expelled	

Germany

Mainz

- 1012 — Jews expelled by Emperor Henry II
- 1349 — Jews expelled after Pogroms
- 1429 — Jews expelled
- 1438 — Jews expelled
- 1462 — Jews expelled
- 1462 — Jews expelled again
- 1474 — Jews expelled after a mob attack on Jewish quarter
- 1483 — Jews expelled

Mentz

- 1084 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert

Worms

- 1084 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert
- 1096 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert
- Jews expelled, allowed to resettle within a decade.

Spires

- 1084 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert

Treves

- 1084 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert

Verdon

- 1084 — Jews expelled/Killed/Forced to Convert

Bavaria

- 1147 — Jews expelled after Pogroms
- 1298–1299 — Jews expelled after Pogroms
- 1349 — Jews expelled after Pogroms
- 1438 — Jews expelled
- 1442 — Jews expelled
- 1442 — Jews expelled
- Upper Bavaria
  - 1276 — Jews expelled
  - Ranshofen — 1432 — Jews expelled
  - Ranshofen — 1442 — Jews expelled
  - Ranshofen — 1478 — Jews expelled
  - Ranshofen — 1485 — Jews expelled
- Lower Bavaria — 1450 — Jews expelled
- 1456 — Jews expelled
- Passau — 1478 — Jews expelled / Killed for Host Desecration
- 1551 — Jews expelled
- 1553 — Jews expelled
- 1813 — Jews expelled
- 1918 — Foreign-born Jews expelled

1182

- Jews expelled

Halle

- 1326 — Jews expelled/Killed

Bacharach

- 1287 — Jews expelled after major pogroms for ritual murder

Rindfleisch

- 1298 — Jews expelled after rebellion across after ritual murder charges

Breslau

- 1350 — Jews expelled again
- 1349 — Jews expelled
- 1453 — Jews expelled by John of Capistrano for Host Desecration
- 1744 — Jews expelled by Frederick II The Great

Pressburg

- 1526 — Jews expelled at city council's request

Savoy

- 1228 — Jews expelled ("extermination")
- 1432 — Jews expelled

Armleder

- 1336–1338 — Jews expelled after a revolt which started after ritual murder charges

Deggendor

- 1337 — Jews expelled after pogroms for ritual murder

Pulkau

- 1338 — Jews expelled after pogroms for ritual murder

small towns

- 1348 — Jews expelled (the Black Death)
- 1348 — Jews expelled during the 30 Years War

Strasbourg

- 1349 — Jews Massacred (2,000) Expelled for a Year. Those who returned had to pay tribute to the Jew Hardprecht the price of coin, and that the Jews were protected from all persecution for their crime by the city council.
- 1186–1388 — Jews expelled by Wenceslaus
- 1479 — Jews expelled
- 1514–1525 — Jews expelled
- 1532 — Jews expelled for money-lending / usury activities

Hielbronn

- 1349 — Jews expelled

Saxony

- 1349 — Jews expelled
- 1430 — Jews expelled
- 1536–1537 — Jews expelled

Wurzburg, Lower Franconia

- 1349 — Jews expelled after Pogroms
- 1422 — Jews expelled
- 1424 — Jews expelled
- 1564 — Jews expelled for ritual murder
- 1567 — Jews expelled

The Palatinate

- 1390–1391 — Jews expelled
- 1575 — Jews expelled

Baden

- 1351 — Jews expelled
- 1470 — Jews expelled / Killed for Ritual Murder
- 1614 — Jews expelled

1394

- Jews expelled

Goslar, Lower Saxony

- 1414 — Jews expelled
- 1543–1544 — Jews expelled
- 1589 — Jews expelled

Trier

- 1418–1419 — Jews expelled for being "social parasite" and "unproductive"

Regensberg

- 1432 — Jews expelled
- 1519 — Jews expelled
- 1519 — Jews expelled by Emperor Maximilian I at the instigation of the radical reformer Balthasar

Brandenburg

- 1422 — Jews expelled
- 1446 — Jews expelled
- 1488 — Jews expelled

Ansbach

- 1422 — Jews expelled

Kulmbach

- 1422 — Jews expelled

Fribourg

- 1424 — Jews expelled

Cologne

- 1424 — Jews expelled
- 1492 — Jews expelled

Lindau

- 1430 — Jews expelled / Exterminated

Speyer

- 1435 — Jews expelled "Forever"

Ausburg

- 1438–1439 — Jews expelled
- 1530 — Attempted Jewish Expulsion by Jews Attempted Jewish Expulsion by Jews, executed by cook of Archbishop/Archbishop Attacks

Giessen

- 1444 — Jews expelled

Berlin

- 1446 — Jews expelled
- 1510 — Jews expelled for Host Desecration
- 1571 — Jews expelled
- 1573 — Jews partially expelled for aiding / financing revolution
- 1453 — Jews expelled
- 1553 — Jews expelled for ritual murder

Schweidnitz-Jauer

- 1453 — Jews expelled
- 1453 — Jews expelled
- 1813 — Jews expelled

Liegnitz-Brieg

- 1453 — Jews expelled

Hildesheim

- 1457 — Jews expelled
- 1562 — Jews expelled
- 1595 — Jews expelled, reversed in 1601

Erfurt

- 1458 — Jews expelled

Gottingen

- 1460 — Jews expelled

Julrich

- 1461 — Jews expelled

Berg

- 1461 — Jews expelled

Arnstadt

- 1474 — Jews expelled

Tirol

- 1475 — Jews expelled

Tubingen

- 1477 — Jews expelled

Styria

- 1478 — Jews expelled partially by Frederick III after multiple pogroms for Jewish money-lending

Helmstadt

- 1479 — Jews expelled
- 1480 — Jews expelled

Katzeneln-bogen

- 1482 — Jews expelled

Hesse

- 1484 — Jews expelled
- 1524 — Attempted Expulsion of Jews, failed after Jews bribe Landgrave William II
- 1539 — Jews expelled

Oettingen

- 1488 — Jews expelled

Wurttenberg

- 1492 — Jews expelled
- 1535 — Jews expelled
- 1738 — Jews expelled

Duchy of Mecklenburg

- 1492 — Jews expelled

Magdeburg

- 1493 — Jews expelled

Archibishopric of Mecklenburg

- 1493 — Jews expelled for Host Desecration

Pomerania

- 1493 — Jews expelled

Halberstadt

- 1493 — Jews expelled

Naumberg

- 1494 — Jews expelled

Carinthia

- 1496 — Jews expelled

Isenberg-Budingen

- 1497 — Jews expelled
- 1498–1499 — Jews expelled
- 1499 — Jews expelled

Nuremberg

- 1522 — Attempted Jewish Expulsion for forging coins and smuggling good coins out of the region

Nordlingen

- 1507 — Jews expelled

Brunschweig

- 1510 — Jews expelled
- 1594 — Jews expelled
- Wolfenbuttel — 1590–1591 — Jews expelled

Munzenbourg

- 1513 — Jews expelled

Gelnhausen

- 1514 — Jews expelled / unsuccessfully after a territorial-wide meeting between princes, nobles, etc.

Hanau

- 1514 — Jews / expelled unsuccessfully after a territorial-wide meeting between princes, nobles, etc.
- 1591 — Jews expelled for what they did in 1514

Lindheim

- 1514 — Jews / expelled unsuccessfully after a territorial-wide meeting between princes, nobles, etc.

Ruckingen

- 1514 — Jews / expelled unsuccessfully after a territorial-wide meeting between princes, nobles, etc.

Weutenberg

- 1531 — Jews expelled

Dangolsheim

- 1519 — Jews expelled

Rothenburg ob de Tauber

- 1519–1520 — Jews expelled

Kassel

- 1524 — Jews expelled

Marburg an der Lahn

- 1524 — Jews expelled

Hagenau

- 1525 — Jews expelled

Posen

- 1529 — Jews expelled/self-disarm/30 burned at the stake for ritual murder

Constance

- 1531 — Jews expelled

Tittingen

- 1541 — Jews expelled for ritual murder

Bohemia

- 1541–1542 — Jews expelled by Emperor Ferdinand I for aiding invading Turks
- 1557 — Jews expelled for the third time by Emperor Ferdinand I
- 1559 — Jews expelled for the fourth time by Emperor Ferdinand I

Muehlhausen

- 1543 — Jews expelled

Henneberg

- 1550 — Jews expelled

Thuringia

- 1554 — Jews expelled

Bergheim

- 1568 — Jews Expelled after synagogue is atcrobbered

1573

- Jews expelled

Gellnausen

- 1576 — Jews expelled finally for what they did in 1514

Dioscses of Basel

- 1581 — Jews expelled

Hanover

- 1587 — Jews expelled after Protestant preachers preach against Jews, Usury, and their corruption

Frankfort

- 1614 — Jews expelled, allowed to resettle within a decade

Hamburg

- 1649 — Jews expelled

Fulda

- 1671 — Jews expelled
- 1712 — Jews expelled
- 1816 — Jews expelled
- 1813 — Jews expelled

Bremen

- 1731 — Jews expelled

Swabia

- 1813 — Jews expelled

1938-1945

- Jews expelled

Italy
Italy
Italy

Spain

Menorca	418 — Jews expelled or asked to convert
Toledo	653 — Jews expelled by King Reccesuinth for "polluting the soil of Spain" after Eighth Council of Toledo
	1066 — Jews expelled/killed by Crusaders
	1147 — Jews expelled by Muslims
	1212 — Jews expelled/killed
	1391 — Jews pogromed/mass converted
	1449 — Jews and Marranos massacred by Old Christians after causing rebellion against King Juan II of Trastamara; this was after Marrano Jews had already enslaved Toledo's Old Christians financially for decades
672	Jews expelled by King Wamba after Jews initiate revolt in Septimania
Cordoba	1013 — Jews expelled
	1473 — Jews and Marranos expelled by The Christian Brotherhood acting under King Henry The Impotent after being accused of bribing one of the most powerful generals, Alonso Fernandez de Aguilar
	1483 — Jews expelled by King Ferdinand II of Aragon
Granada	1066 — Jews expelled/killed by Muslims
1144	Jews expelled after Almoravide persecutions
Villages / Towns	1205 — Jews expelled by Muslims
	1348 — Jews expelled (the Black Death)
Navarre	1328 — Jews expelled / "exterminated"
	1498 — Jews expelled
Seville	1391 — Jews expelled after pogroms killing 4,000; the local authorities had wanted them expelled for a long time but the Pope and the King had always prevented it; once King Juan I of Castile dies, the Queen Mother, Leonora, expels them and destroys their 23 synagogues
	1483 — Jews expelled by King Ferdinand II of Aragon
Aragon	1391 — Jews expelled after pogroms
Ecija	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Carmona	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Castile	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Aragon	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
	1492 — Jews expelled again for ritual murder
Valencia	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Barcelona	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Catalonia	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Balearic Islands	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Palma	1391 — Jews expelled/Exterminated
Ciudad Real	1449 — Converso Jews expelled and their quarters sacked by the Order of Calatrava after taking over financial administration
Jaen	1473 — Jews expelled after being accused of murdering the Constable of Castile
Serovia	1474 — Jews expelled / Massacred
Andalusia	1483 — Jews expelled by King Ferdinand II of Aragon
Saragossa	1486 — Jews expelled after the Arbues Affair, in which Jews had "influenced" the Marannos to act against Spain's interests; the King orders the sudden expulsion of Jews from the entire archbishopric, as a "foreshadowing" of the "final solution" in 1492
Albarracin	1486 — Jews expelled after the Arbues Affair
1492	Jews expelled by King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella I of Castile
Colonies	Jews expelled by King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella I of Castile
Madrid	1550 — Jews expelled
	1556 — Jews expelled but cancelled by a bribe
1608	Crypto-Jews expelled from the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) by Jesuit Superior-General Claudio Acquaviva

Jewish Glossary

Aguna/agunot (lit. "anchored"): Straw widows, women who are incapable of marriage because their husbands refuse to give them a get, a writ of divorce.

Aliyah (lit. "ascent"): Immigration to Israel.

Ashkenazi: Jews from Germany (Ashkenaz) and surrounding European countries, particularly Poland, Ukraine, and Russia. The vast majority of Jews in the United States are of Ashkenazi descent.

British Mandate: Established by the League of Nations in 1922 to implement the Balfour Declaration's promise of providing a national home for Jews in Palestine.

Ein sof: Without end, infinity. In Kabbalah, the realm of God to which we have no access.

Emancipation: The granting of Jews citizenship and political rights in 19th century Western Europe.

Free loan societies: Established in late-19th century to help Eastern European Jews transition to America.

Gehena: The Rabbinic name for Hell.

Gematria (gamma-tria): Letters corresponding to numbers.

Gilgul: Rolling over, reincarnation.

Gnosticism: Dualistic theology with gods of good and evil.

Hagaddah: The Rabbinic "script" for retelling the Exodus from Egypt.

Heresy: An opinion held in opposition to the established or commonly received doctrine, and tending to promote a division or party, as in politics, literature, philosophy, etc.; -- usually, but not necessarily, said in reproach.

Holocaust: Wholly burnt offering to God (see Lev. 1). See Shoah.

Jerusalem Talmud (y.): Edited in the Land of Israel around 450.

Ketubah: Jewish marriage contract, similar to a prenuptial agreement, protecting the wife's interests in the event of divorce or the death of her husband. Often ornately decorated.

LaG b'Omer: The 33rd day of the Omer. Celebrated with bonfires and outdoor activities.

Mashiach: "Anointed," Gr. "Christos." A divinely appointed human being who will preside over the ingathering of the exiled Jews and the reestablishment of Jewish political sovereignty in the Land of Israel.

Morranos: Spanish and Portuguese Jews living in the Iberian Peninsula who converted or were forced to convert to Christianity during the Middle Ages, yet continued to practice Judaism in secrecy. Crypto-Jews.

Noahide laws: Laws that Rabbis say are incumbent upon Gentiles: establishing courts; not committing murder, idolatry, blasphemy, adultery, or thievery; and not tearing a limb from a living animal.

Peel Commission, 1937: Partitioned Palestine west of the Jordan into Jewish and Arab states. Zionists accepted the partition; Arabs rejected it.

Ploni Almoni: The Hebrew version of Joe Shmoe, any anonymous person.

Pogrom: organized persecution of an ethnic group (especially Jews)

Purim: Holiday celebrating the survival of the Jews outside of Israel, lit., "lots."

Second Vatican Council (1962–1965): Recognized that God's covenant with the Jewish people remains intact.

Sefaradim: Jews exiled from Spain (Sefarad) who moved to some European countries, such as Holland and Bulgaria. The term also commonly refers to Jews from North Africa and the Middle East.

Shames (Yiddish) or shamash (Hebrew): The "servant" that lights the other candles.

Sheol: The biblical term for the place where everyone goes when they die.

Sitra achra: Other side, evil forces in the Kabbalah.

Talmud: The collection of ancient rabbinic writings on Jewish law and tradition (the Mishna and the Gemara) that constitute the basis of religious authority in Orthodox Judaism

Ten Lost Tribes: When the Assyrians conquered the northern kingdom of Israel in 721 B.C.E., they scattered the inhabitants all over the kingdom.

Tikkun: Mystical concept of repairing the broken vessels; now used to describe acts of social justice.

Usury: A premium or increase paid, or stipulated to be paid, for a loan, as of money; interest. The act of lending money at an exorbitant rate of interest

Yesh m'ayin: Creation out of nothing.

Zionism: Political movement beginning in late-19th century to reestablish a Jewish state in the Land of Israel.

Zohar: A Jewish cabalistic book attributed by tradition to Rabbi Simon ben Yochi, who lived about the end of the 1st century, a. d. Modern critics believe it to be a compilation of the 13th century

Jewish Historical Timeline

1492 Expulsion of the Jews from Spain

1497 Mass conversion of the Jews of Portugal

1516 First ghetto established in Venice

1536 Inquisition introduced to Portugal

1553 Burning of the Talmud in Italy

1555 Ghetto established in Rome

1632–1677 Life of Baruch Spinoza

1648–1649 Persecution of the Jews in Polish Ukraine by the Cossacks

1665–1666 Shabbetai Zevi acclaimed as Jewish messiah

1670 Publication of the Theological-Political Treatise of Spinoza

1700–1760 Life of the Baal Shem Tov, founder of Hasidism

1726–1791 Life of Jacob Frank, most radical Sabbatean

1727–1786 Life of Moses Mendelssohn

1782 Joseph II of Austria's edict of toleration to the Jews

1783 Publication of Mendelssohn's Jerusalem

1791 Emancipation of the Jews in France

1804 Regularization of the pale of settlement in Russia by Tsar Alexander I

1818 Hamburg Reform Temple established

1819–1822 Rise and fall of the Verein fuer Kultur und Wissenschaft des Judentums

1836 Publication of Hirsch's Nineteen Letters on Judaism

1840 Damascas blood libel

1844–1846 Reform Jewish synods in Germany

1853–1878 Publication of Graetz's History of the Jews

1854 Breslau rabbinical seminary opened

1872 Reform rabbinical seminary founded in Berlin

1881–1882 Wave of pogroms in Russia

1889 First essays of Ahad Ha-Am published

1894–1899 The Dreyfus affair in France

1896 Herzl publishes The Jewish State

1897 The Jewish Bund established in Vilna and the first Zionist Congress in Basle

1903 The Kishinev pogrom

1905 Publication of Leo Baeck's The Essence of Judaism

1915 Louis Brandeis publishes his manifesto of American Zionism

1917 Balfour declaration in England recognizing a Jewish homeland in Palestine

1919 Publication of Hermann Cohen's Religion of Reason out of the Sources of Judaism

1921 Publication of Mordecai Kaplan's Judaism as a Civilization Nazi Holocaust

1923 Publication of Martin Buber's I and Thou.

1925 Hebrew University opened in Jerusalem.

1934 Publication of Mordecai Kaplan's Judaism as a Civilization.

1941–1944 Nazi Holocaust

1948 Establishment of the state of Israel.

1966 Publication of Richard Rubenstein's After Auschwitz.

1967 Six Day War in Israel.

1990 Publication of Judith Plaskow's Standing Again at Sinai.

Jewish Extensive Historical Timeline

Biblical Period

c. 2000 B.C.E. Abraham and Sarah migrating from Ur to Canaan.

c. 1250 Moses leads the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

c. 1200 Joshua leads the Israelites in battle against the Canaanites.

1020 Saul is anointed the first king of Israel.

1000 David becomes the second king of Israel. Jerusalem is capital city.

961 Solomon, David's son, builds the Temple in Jerusalem.

922 Solomon dies and the kingdom splits: Israel in the north and Judea in the south. 721 Assyria destroys Israel and exiles population. Ten Lost Tribes.

597 Babylonia conquers Judah.

586 Temple is destroyed and Judeans are exiled, en masse, to Babylonia.

539 King Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon.

516 Second Temple is dedicated in Jerusalem.

458 Ezra leads a group of Jews back to Jerusalem.

Hellenistic Period

333 Alexander the Great conquers Judah and brings in Hellenistic culture.

200 Land of Israel passes from the Egyptians to the Syrians.

168–164 Hasmoneans/Maccabees win war against Syrians and Hellenized Jews.

63 B.C.E. Rome enters Judea.

66 C.E. Great Revolt against Roman rule.

70 Second Temple is destroyed.

74 Massada.

Rabbinic Period

132–135 Hadrianic persecutions and Bar Kochva Revolt.

c. 220 Redaction of Mishnah by Judah the Patriarch.

313 Emperor Constantine legalizes Christianity.

c. 450 Redaction of Jerusalem Talmud.

c. 550 Redaction of Babylonian Talmud.

7th century - Rise and spread of Islam.

Medieval Period

10th century Rise of Jewish philosophy.

1180 Maimonides's Mishneh Torah (code of law).

1190 Maimonides's Guide of the Perplexed.

12th century - Crusades.

12th century - Rise of Jewish mysticism/Kabbalah.

Late 13th century - Zohar.

14th century - Rabbi Menachem Ha-Me'iri of Provence writes that Christians are not to be classified as pagans or idolaters.

1492 Christians conquer Spain from Muslims and exile the Jews.

16th century - Rise of Lurianic Kabbalah in Tzfat.

Early Modern Period

1654 First group of Jews arrives in New Amsterdam.

18th century Rise and spread of Hassidism in Eastern Europe.

1782 Edict of Tolerance in Lower Austria.

1789 French Revolution.

1790 Jews given political rights in France.

19th century Haskalah (Jewish Enlightenment) begins in Western Europe and slowly spreads to Eastern Europe.

1818 Hamburg Temple begins reforming its services.

1824 A small group petitions for liturgical reforms in Charleston, S.C.

1840 Damascus Blood Libel.

Modern Period

1853 Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch opens up a school in Frankfurt, Germany, that combines Jewish and secular studies.

1873 Hebrew Union College (Reform seminary) founded in Cincinnati.

1876 Felix Adler founds Ethical Culture Society.

1885 Pittsburgh Platform of Reform Judaism.

1886 Jewish Theological Seminary (Conservative) founded in New York City.

1894 Dreyfus affair.

1896 Theodor Herzl writes The Jewish State.

1897 First Zionist Congress in Switzerland.

1897 Rabbi Isaac Elkhannan Specktor Yeshiva (Orthodox) founded in New York City.

1917 Balfour Declaration.

1922 League of Nations gives Britain a mandate to establish a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

1939 Britain effectively terminates immigration to Pelestine on the eve of World War II.

1939–1945 Shoah: Six million Jews systematically murdered in Nazi Europe.

1947 United Nations partitions the western portion of Palestine into Arab and Jewish states. Jews reluctantly accept. Arabs reject.

1948 Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion declares the establishment of the State of Israel.

1962–1965 Second Vatican Council.

1967 Six-Day War. Israel acquires the Old City of Jerusalem.

1968 Reconstructionist Rabbinical College founded.

1969 Society for Humanistic Judaism organized.

1972 Reform ordains first female rabbi.

1975 Reconstructionists begin ordaining women.

1985 Conservative movement begins ordaining women.

1997 A women's yeshiva in Jerusalem begins training halachic advisors.

Jewish Mini Biographies

Akiva son of Joseph (50–135 C.E.). One of the leading figures of Rabbinic Judaism in the decades after the destruction of the Second Temple. He was largely responsible for the traditions recorded in the Mishnah. He was also believed to engage in mystical practices. He maintained that the most important principle in the Torah was to show love to your neighbor, although he simultaneously held that study was greater than deeds. He promoted the Rabbinic doctrine that the entire Torah was given by God at Mount Sinai. Akiva was flayed to death by the Romans toward the end of the Bar Kochva Revolt.

Dreyfus, Alfred (1859–1935). An assimilated Jew and captain in the French Army. He was falsely convicted of treason in 1895. Dreyfus was demoted and sent to Devil's Island off the coast of South America.

Herzl, Theodor (1860–1904). Best remembered as the father of political Zionism. He was an assimilated Jew from Budapest who was educated in Vienna. He served as a reporter for the trial of Alfred Dreyfus and became convinced that the only solution for the Jewish problem in Europe was a national home. He wrote The Jewish State in 1896 and presided over the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, in 1897. There, he said that in 50 years, a Jewish state would exist in Palestine. His words proved prophetic.

Heschel, Abraham Joshua (1905–1972). A scion of a Hassidic dynasty and one of the leading Jewish theologians in the United States in the 20th century. He was twice invited to the White House to speak on issues of social justice and was a friend and ally of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His scholarship touched on every facet of Jewish thought.

Shimon son of Yochai, Rabbi (c. 2nd century C.E.) was one of the leading students of Rabbi Akiva. After Akiva's death, he fled to Babylonia. He is the reputed author of the Zohar, the major text of medieval Kabbalah. His yahrtzeit ("anniversary of death") is celebrated on LaG b'Omer by thousands making pilgrimage to his reputed gravesite on Mount Meron in northern Israel.

Soloveitchik, Joseph Dov (1903–1993). Born in Lithuania into the Brisk Rabbinic dynasty. A child prodigy, Soloveitchik went to Germany to receive a Ph.D. in religious philosophy. On immigrating to the United States, he taught Talmud for decades at Yeshiva University in New York City and founded the Orthodox day school Maimonides, outside of Boston. He was arguably the leading Torah figure in the United States in the second half of the 20th century. Rav Soloveitchik combined profound Torah knowledge and secular erudition.

Tzvi, Shabbatai (1626–1676). A charismatic leader who proclaimed himself messiah in 1665. Although there were other false messiahs in Jewish history, Shabbatai Tzvi was the most popular. Some of his followers remained convinced of his messianic status even after he converted to Islam, under the threat of death by the Turkish sultan, in 1666. Shabbatai Tzvi's teachings combined elements of Jewish mysticism, the call to penance, and violations of halachah. The dashed messianic hopes placed on Shabbatai Tzvi precipitated skepticism toward messianism as well as Kabbalah.

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